

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of conducting, in relation to a print job, a printing process between an originating device and a printer, said method comprising steps of:

~~selecting at a computer communicating with the originating device over a network, image data to be printed, wherein the image data is stored at the originating device;~~

inputting security key information specific to the print job to the originating device;

embodying corresponding print job specific security key information in a physical security key;

initiating, in association with the print job specific security key information, the printing process at the originating device for ~~printing the selected image data~~
outputting the print job from the printer;

suspending the printing process prior to outputting the print job from the printer;

inputting, using the physical security key via [[at]] a local user interface at the printer, the corresponding print job specific security key information; and

enabling, depending upon the corresponding print job specific security

key information, the suspended printing process to output the print job from the printer.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~both (a) the print job specific key information and (b) the corresponding print job specific information~~ comprise a physical key and control information the print job specific security key information is input via a local user interface at a computer.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the corresponding print job specific security key information is ~~a software key on a physical carrier that can be coupled to the local user interface, said software key being one of (a) complementary to the print job specific security key information and (b) identical to the print job specific security key information.~~

4. (Currently Amended) A system for conducting a secure printing process, in relation to a print job, between an originating device and a printer, wherein the originating device and the printer communicate over a network, said system comprising:

~~the originating device;~~

~~the printer, wherein the originating device, the computer and the printer communicate over a network;~~

~~means for selecting, at the computer, image data to be printed, wherein the image data is stored at the originating device;~~

a security key interface, adapted to input security key information

specific to the print job to the originating device;

a physical security key, embodying corresponding print job specific security key information;

a user interface means for initiating, adapted to initiate, in association with the print job specific security key information, the printing process at the originating device for printing the selected image data outputting the print job from the printer;

means for suspending at least one processor module, adapted to suspend the printing process prior to outputting the print job from the printer; and

a local user interface at the printer, adapted to enable for enabling input of the corresponding print job-specific job specific security key information, ;and

means wherein said at least one processor module is adapted to enable for enabling, depending upon the corresponding print job specific security key information, the suspended printing process to output the print job from the printer.

5. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 4, wherein ~~both (a) the print job specific key information and (b) the corresponding print job specific information~~ comprise a physical key and control information the print job specific security key information is input via a local user interface at a computer communicating with the originating device over a network, wherein the image data is stored at the originating device.

6. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 4, wherein the

corresponding print job specific security key information is ~~a software key on a physical carrier that can be coupled to the local user interface, said software key being one of (a) complementary to the print job specific security key information and (b) identical to the print job specific security key information.~~

7. (Currently Amended) A computer program recorded on a computer-readable medium, the program comprising software code portions for performing the steps of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing a computer program, wherein said computer program comprises software code portions for performing the steps of ~~any one claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1.

9. (New) A printing method comprising the steps of:

- inputting at an originating device, public key information that corresponds to private key information;
- initiating, depending upon the public key information input at the originating device, a printing process for printing image data on a printer;
- suspending the printing process prior to printing the image data on the printer;
- inputting the private key information at the printer; and

enabling, depending upon the private key information input at the printer, the suspended printing process to print the image data on the printer.

10. (New) A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of selecting, at a computer communicating with the originating device over a network, the image data to be printed, wherein the image data is stored at the originating device.

11. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein
said step of initiating includes a step of encrypting, at the originating device, the image data using the public key information and a step of sending the encrypted image data from the originating device to the printer, and
said step of enabling includes a step of decrypting, at the printer, the encrypted image data using the private key information and a step of printing the decrypted image data on the printer.

12. (New) A system comprising:
a security key interface, at an originating device, adapted to input public key information that corresponds to private key information;
a user interface, adapted to initiate, depending upon the public key information input at the originating device, a printing process for printing image data on a printer;

at least one processor module, adapted to suspend the printing process prior to printing the image data on the printer; and

local user interface at the printer, adapted to input the private key information,

wherein said at least one processor module is adapted to enable depending upon the private key information input at the printer, the suspended printing process to print the image data one the printer.

13. (New) A system according to claim 12, further comprising:

a computer for communicating with the originating device over a network, and for selecting the image data to be printed, wherein the image data is stored at the originating device.

14. (New) A system according to claim 12, further comprising:

an encryption processor module, adapted to encrypt, at the originating device, the image data using the public key information,

a decryption processor module, adapted to decrypt, at the printer, the encrypted image data using the private key information; and

wherein said printer prints the decrypted image data.